

New-York Daily Tribune

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27, 1865.

To Correspondents.
No notice can be taken of Anonymous Communications. Whatever is intended for insertion must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer—not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee for his good faith. All business letters for this office should be addressed to "The Tribune," New-York. We cannot undertake to return selected Communications.

Terms of the Tribune.
Daily Tribune.
Mail subscribers, \$10.00
1 copy, 1 year—\$11.00
Address: THE TRIBUNE, New-York.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

THE WAR.

The blockade-runner *U.S. 101*, said to be commanded by the pirate Capt. Maffi, arrived at Fort Caswell from Bermuda on the night the Rebels evacuated the Fort. She was lucky enough to evade our fleet, and returned to Bermuda as quickly as possible. It is a pity we could not have had the pleasure of meeting her company here in Fort Ligonier for a while.

The Canadian Attorney-General on Wednesday placed before Parliament a bill for the prevention and suppression of outrages on the frontier, and the manufacture and shipment of arms for unlawful purposes, and providing for the seizure and examination of suspected vessels, and giving notice to persons proving unworthy of the hospitality of the country to remove from it.

Late advices from Eastport confirm the report that the 18th Tennessee Cavalry, about six hundred strong, under Col. Johnson, encamped at Clifton, Tenn., had sent word over our lines that they wished to surrender, take the oath, and go home.

The crews of the blockade-runners *Stag* and *Charlotte*, captured off Wilmington a few days since, have been brought to Fortress Monroe. Another steamer was captured off Fort Fisher on Sunday but her name was not known.

Gen. Canby announces that no interference with means of transportation, or with persons coming within our lines under guarantees of safe conduct, will be permitted.

GENERAL NEWS.

We have heretofore reported the threatening by the Indians of Julesburg, Colorado Territory, one of the most important stations and grain depots on the great Overland Mail route. It is now reported that the place has been abandoned. Gen. Curtis is trying, however, to restore possession, and is actively hunting down the hostile Indians. The loss of Julesburg would compel the suspension of the mails until the Spring grain should become available for the support of stock.

Our Government has been officially notified that in Chile eleven ports of entry have recently been declared open by law. The names of these ports are as follows: Ancon, Coquimbo, Copiapo, Coronel, Hualde, Mejillones, Melipal, Valdivia, Valparaiso, Talcahuano and Yumbel. There is a new schedule of tariffs, which includes many free goods. Among these are books, presses, and agricultural and other machines.

An interesting ceremony took place at the White House on Tuesday morning. The occasion was the presentation to President Lincoln of a truly beautiful and superb vase of skeleton leaves, gathered from the battle fields of Gettysburg. The vase was on exhibition at the great Sanitary Fair held in June last in Philadelphia, and was there subscribed for as a gift to the President.

An election for Mayor and other charter officers was held on Monday in West Virginia. The result is not positively ascertained, but Henry Francis, Union, is supposed to be chosen Mayor by a small majority over Andrew J. Sweeney, Democrat. The vote on both sides is larger than it was last year. There will be a Union majority in the City Council.

The Aldermen yesterday were considerably stirred up in the matter of the impending draft, but it seems they act only unofficially and as advisers, they were content to recommend an increase in the amount of bounty offered by the country.

At a special meeting of the New-York Historical Society, last evening, the late Edward Everett was the subject of eloquent and feeling addresses by George Bancroft, William C. Bryant, the Rev. Dr. Osgood and others.

The Common Council has at last authorized the Trustees of the Colored Orphan Asylum to sell the lots on Fifth-ave., (where the rebels burned the Asylum in 1863) and purchase lots and put up a building in some other location.

In the Louisiana State Senate, on the 17th inst., Mr. Hills introduced a resolution, which was passed to a third reading, requesting the Delegation in Congress to vote for the amendment to the Constitution prohibiting slavery, and pledging the General Assembly to ratify the amendment if adopted.

The Missouri House of Representatives yesterday adopted the concurring resolution instructing our Delegation in Congress to introduce a bill to retaliate upon the Rebel prisoners the sufferings inflicted upon Union prisoners in the hands of the enemy.

Theodore Yates, convicted in Brooklyn of the murder of Policeman Curran, was yesterday sentenced to death, the day of execution being the 17th of March.

Both Boards of the Common Council have agreed to appropriate \$2,500 to defray the expense of celebrating the anniversary of Washington's Birthday.

Two large fires occurred yesterday morning: one in Detroit, loss \$75,000, and the Ontario Park picking establishment at Hamilton, Canada, loss \$100,000.

A convention of publishers is called to meet at Harrisburg, Pa., on the 9th of February, to advocate the repeal of the paper duty.

The Bank of Crawford County, at Meadville, Pa., was robbed last night of \$150,000 in United States bonds.

Gold opened at 204, sold up to 205½, and was scarce for delivery all day. At the close, the rate was 207½. The market was not very active, and the main support of the market, Government Stocks, lost part of the advance of Wednesday night, and closed at 107½ for 6s of 1881, 107½ for 5-20 coupon, new issue, and 106½ for 40-coupon.

Railway Shares have been irregular. An advance was made upon the Erie generally, as compared with the latest prices of Wednesday. At the Second Board the market was strong and the whole list higher. Money continues plenty among stock houses at 8½ per cent, and large balances remain idle. In commercial paper little doing. The rates are 3½ per cent.

Last Evening—Stocks and gold were strong on the call, and continued so after it. Gold sold as high as 207½ after call.

We devote a large portion of our space, this morning, to Mr. Boutwell's defense of Gen. Butler in the House of Representatives, satisfied that it will be read with avidity by all, whether friends or foes, of a man who fills so large a space in public observation. It ought to set at rest, and will, with all right-minded men, the scandalous falsehoods which have been told of Gen. Butler's administration in New-Orleans.

Richmond Journals of Tuesday discuss the Blair mission with much earnestness. The Examiner is sure that his speedy return betokens a nervous anxiety on the part of Mr. Lincoln to make peace before the 4th of March, lest at that time France and England recognize only the States voted in November as the United States. The same paper gives what it calls Blair's terms, which are: Abolition of Slavery; return

of all the States to the Union; the changes in laws and condition effected by the war to be sustained. These terms, *The Examiner* says, are utterly inadmissible, and trusts are correct. All the editors are proving that the North is exhausted, and if the South will make one more grand effort the desired result will be attained. In the Rebel House of Representatives on Monday, Mr. Leach offered resolutions in favor of an armistice and negotiations for peace. They were referred without debate to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

The New-Jersey Assembly was organized yesterday by amicable arrangement, the vote being unanimous. John T. Crowell, Union, is Speaker; George P. Cooper, Union, Clerk; the Assistant-Clerk and several other officers go to the Democrats. A warrant was directed for an election to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Col. Fowler of Sussex County.

A dispatch from Baltimore announces the return of Mr. Blair from Richmond. "He is understood," says the dispatch, "to report that among the leaders in Richmond, Jeff. Davis included, there is a strong feeling toward making peace on the best terms they can."

We can easily believe that Mr. Blair has returned sanguine and hopeful. Had he been otherwise, had he not felt that his errand would not be fruitless, he would not have gone back to Richmond. But we can afford to wait for an authoritative report of what he has learned there without jumping to conclusions. It is not improper to say, however, that the dispatch is from the agent of the Associated Press, and that such dispatches are considered more especially under Government supervision than those sent by the correspondents of individual journals.

MR. BLAIR IN RICHMOND.

That Francis P. Blair senior is (or recently was) in Richmond for the second time within a few weeks past—that he went thither on either visit impelled by a hope that he might possibly be instrumental in smoothing the way toward a pacification of our country—so much is generally known to be true. That his going a second time, so soon after his return from his former visit, argues at least a hope on his part that pacification is not impossible, is a reasonable inference. All beyond this is gossip, babble, invention—the windy coining of lying humor—the concoctions of adventurous penny-alieners of lively imaginations and elastic consciences who make up their circumstantial accounts of what Mr. Blair said to Jeff. Davis, and what was the substance of Davis's reply, &c., &c., on the principle that the boy supposed to govern astronomers in determining the distances of the planets; viz.: "Guess at a quarter of it, and multiply this by four." They know absolutely nothing whereof they affirm.

Let us illustrate their ingenuity by explaining one ridiculous story that has obtained extensive currency; viz.: that, on Mr. Blair's entering the house of Davis, Mrs. Davis herself burst into his arms, burst into tears, and other absurd applications. The grain of truth of which this monstrous story has been fabricated is this: Mrs. Davis and certain ladies of the Blair connection, including Mrs. Montgomery Blair, were formerly intimate, devoted friends; so that, when Mrs. Davis called, four years ago, to bid those ladies a long farewell, on the eve of her departure from Washington with her husband, who was thenceforth to be the enemy of those who had been her friends, she was affected to tears, as any lady in her position might well be. And this, we say with confidence, is the basis, and all the basis, of the story which has recently been flying about as if circulated to make a jest of Mr. Blair's effort.

We know that Mr. Blair's original hope that a pacification might soon be effected had not faded when he last left Washington for Richmond; beyond this, we are as completely in the dark as those who pretend to know everything. As we have repeatedly observed already, our hopes of any immediate peace are much fainter than Mr. Blair's; yet we confidently trust that his repeated visits to Richmond will indirectly yet powerfully conduce to the desired end. And we are further certain that all who pretend to give, as coming from Mr. B., the essential terms of pacification suggested or proposed by him, are dealing in whole sale inventions.

Some of the leading gold-gamblers and produce-gamblers who operate in our City undoubtedly have underground connections and communications with Richmond, and may thus be the first among us to know whether Mr. Blair's effort ultimately succeeds or fails. They are doubtless advised from day to day of the current probability of this or that result. The turn of the Gold Market doubtless reflects, therefore, from hour to hour, the flickering probabilities of Peace or War, as telegraphed from Richmond as well as from Washington; but they are in neither case founded on advice from Mr. Blair.

Close observers can hardly have failed to note the annoyance which Mr. Blair's return to Richmond has occasioned to the ultra War party in that City as well as their brethren in the faith at Washington. "Why does Mr. Blair come here?" exult the blood-and-thunder oracles in Richmond; "he knows already the only terms on which we will consent to Peace. Whenever 'the Lincoln usurpation' is ready to concede our independence, giving up Louisiana, Tennessee, Missouri and West Virginia, to the Confederacy, it can have Peace, and not before."

"What does old Blair seek at Richmond?" responds Belmont from Washington; "whenever Jeff. Davis, Lee, Beauregard, Joe Johnston, &c., shall be prepared to surrender at discretion, Gen. Grant and Sherman stand ready to accept their submission, assigning them fit quarters and rations until the pleasure of the Government as to their ultimate disposition is declared." Either of these views will be deemed conclusive by those who concur in it; yet we are quite sure a large majority of the

whole American people would bear with not more surprise than pleasure that Peace had resulted from Mr. Blair's visits to Richmond.

FRANCE IN MEXICO.

Incredulity as to the new French acquisition in Mexico would seem to be vanquished by the circumstantiality and positiveness of the statement put forth through *The Democratic Press* of San Francisco, evidently only at second-hand from Dr. Gwin himself. That statement imports that Maximilian I. of Mexico, for and in consideration of the blood and treasure expended by France in conquering his empire for him, has ceded to Napoleon III. Lower California, Sonora, Sinaloa, and other portions of Northern Mexico, wherein Durango, Chihuahua and perhaps New-Leon and Tamaulipas are included. In other words, Napoleon and Maximilian are dividing the swag, and the former has entrusted his share of the booty to Dr. Win. M. Gwin, once of Mississippi, later of California, and now of the outside world in general, who is to be his Viceroy or Governor-General, under the title of "Duke of Sonora."

And Gwin has already commenced toiling the discomfited Secessionists who once shared with him the rule of California into his new satrapy by proffers of rich mines, ample privileges, and good times generally. California rejoices in the prospect that many of them will go. Of course, Max only cedes the northern half of his empire temporarily, or until he can pay off the heavy debt incurred in conquering Mexico for him; but this will deceive no one who recollects how the French came to be in Mexico at all. That debt could never have been paid anyhow, and its liquidation is now more hopeless than before. There was a bare chance that the unworked mines of the Northern departments might somehow have enabled Max to reduce if not discharge his debt; but that has now vanished. Napoleon has taken his pay; the rest of Maximilian's creditors will wait long enough for theirs.

Gwin is a man of very considerable ability, sixty years old, thoroughly unscrupulous, as great a spendthrift as his new master, with a passion (like that master) for gambling adventure. He will attract colonists, and develop the resources of his viceroyalty, but he will never send a dollar to the French treasury. On the contrary, his dukeedom will outvie all the horse-leeches' daughters in crying, "Give! Give!" to the unfortunate Finance Minister at Paris. France may derive some trade from this grab, especially if it is made to include Matamoros and one or two other ports on the Gulf; but not one dollar of all that her ruler has spent in Mexico will ever come back to her treasury.

Is not all this menacing to us?

In our view, not at all. We have but to be patient for a few years and Emperor Max, Duke Gwin and all their retinue, will vanish from the soil of Mexico. That country will not support those aspiring magnates—cannot be made to yield the revenue absolutely necessary to their existence as potentates. We might hold them on their thrones by trying to push them off; and we shall be wiser and let them severally alone, and that seals their fate. Neither Emperor nor Duke can wrench from his subjects the means of maintaining his sway, and France will very soon tire of supporting either. Only let them alone, and they will both be needy fugitives in Europe within a very few years. Patience!

REORGANIZING THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

A bill is before the Legislature at Albany "To create a Metropolitan Fire District and establish a Fire Department therein." In its essential features, this bill is a copy of the Metropolitan Police Law. The police and fire districts are identical in their limits. Four citizens are to be appointed Commissioners, one of whom shall be a resident of Brooklyn, and in them is to be vested the control and management of all officers, men, property, measures and action for the extinguishment of fires within the district. The Governor is to nominate them to the Senate for confirmation, and they are to serve for the terms of four, six and eight years, and at the expiration of each term the successor of the retiring officer is to be appointed for eight years. No Commissioner may be a candidate for any political office, the acceptance of a nomination working a forfeiture of that privilege.

Rules are prescribed for the organization and government of the Board. The cost of carrying on the Fire Department is to be levied upon the cities of New-York and Brooklyn, by tax, in the same way as that of the Police Force, and the estimates for each year are to be determined by a quorum of the Commissioners together with the Controllers of New-York and Brooklyn, such estimates to be submitted to the Mayors of both cities for revision, and the Presidents of the Board of Supervisors of New-York and Kings Counties; but, in the event of their disagreement with or objection to the estimates by the latter, the Board of Estimate may, after careful revision of the estimates and objections, modify or adhere to their former action as they may deem most expedient.

On and after the organization of the new Board of Commissioners, all property now belonging to or in use by the Fire Departments of New-York and Kings County shall be handed over to their use and keeping, but shall remain the property of the Corporations of the respective cities to which they belong. Such portions of this property as the Board may not require will be turned over to the Controllers of the two cities for the public benefit. The Commissioners are required to appoint one Chief-Engineer, to be also Superintendent of Repairs and Construction, and as many Assistant-Engineers as they may deem necessary, and to regulate their position and pay, and make such rules for their government, as the public service may require; the employees, so far as practicable, to be chosen from the present active and exempt firemen of the cities of New-York and Brooklyn, and to wear such uniform or insignia of office as may be ordered by the Board. The present firemen, if they

remain in the Department until regularly discharged by the Board, will be entitled to all the privileges and exemptions to which exempt firemen are entitled by the laws of the State. All persons obstructing firemen in the discharge of their duties, or wearing without authority any portion of a fireman's uniform, are to be adjudged guilty of misdemeanor, and liable to fine and imprisonment.

This is a brief outline of the prominent features of the bill, by which it is proposed to establish a new, but eminently proper and salutary system. It is presented at the instance of the Insurance interest and of many leading citizens of both parties. Many of the best firemen of the city also hope for its passage, satisfied that the present organization is too cumbersome, costly and corrupt to be efficient. When the old hand-engines were in vogue, a large number of men to each company was needed; but now, with steam to do most of the labor, a small, compact force of skilled firemen will far more fully meet the requirements of the service.

The adoption of steam machinery for the extinguishment of fires has proved successful here as elsewhere. The substitution of paid volunteer firemen has been, wherever tried, in Boston, Philadelphia and other places, all that could be desired. It is the universal system in all large European cities. Those most familiar with our present system best know its practical inefficiency and the great moral evils which inevitably wait upon it in a city so large as this. That the adoption of a paid Department, whose members will be under thorough discipline, will be a great saving in cost, is unquestioned, and we are equally confident that it will be no less advantageous to the property interests and the good government of the city.

A DEAD LOCK.

Congress is required each session to pass a "Deficiency bill"—that is, a bill making further appropriations for the service of the current year in sundry departments where the regular appropriations made at the preceding session either have already proved inadequate or are morally certain to do so. The Deficiency bill of the current session appropriates nearly \$100,000,000, most of it for Military and Naval purposes. Into this bill the House interpolated this item:

"To enable the Clerk of the House of Representatives to execute the resolutions of the House of July 4, 1864, directing payment of additional compensation to its officers, clerks, and other employees, and to the reporters for *The Congressional Globe*, a sum sufficient for that purpose, being \$37,991.40, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, and the same is hereby added to the compensation of the House of Representatives; but no payment shall be made under this provision to any other persons than the clerks, officers, or other employees of the House and the reporters for *The Congressional Globe*."

Here it will be seen that the House has undertaken to increase the compensation of its brigade of parasites—half of them as superfluous as a fifth wheel to a coach—without law and against law by a simple resolve of its own body, passed in the hurry and confusion of the last day of a session. The Senate has most properly, righteously and firmly refused to appropriate the money required; and the House has chosen to defeat the bill rather than let it pass without this item. We pray the Senate to realize that the People is with it and prove that it has backbone. The House dare not let the bill be lost on this issue.

BLESSINGS VERY MUCH DISGUISED.

Great is the art of extraction—sunbeams from cucumbers, blood from turnips, light from smoke, joy from sorrow, courage from defeat. As Shakespeare has it:

"There is a soul of goodness in things evil
Would men observantly dwell it out."

And they are doing it with a vengeance in Richmond, where the Confederate philosophers, in their own acrid and spluttering way, are educing all manner of consolation from what to ordinary mortals would be losses and disappointments and maddening misfortunes. If we may believe them, they renew the old fable, and every time that they go to the ground, they arise plants refreshed. Thus *The Maccus Telegraph*, after mentioning the little fact that we have taken possession of all the Confederate sea-ports, is possessed by a prodigious fit of resignation mixed with religion, and piously snuffles: "He doeth all things well," following up its profession by proving, in a small, neat essay, that the Confederacy is vastly stronger with no seaports at all—a matter of taste about which there can be no dispute. The same paper then demonstrates that blockade-running has been nothing but a continual damage to the Rebel cause, and winds up with a jubilant, "Let not the spirit faint or the determination flag!" Certainly not! By no manner of means!

The Richmond Sentinel is in the same resigned and philosophic condition. It considers the fall of Fort Fisher as "Heaven's own blessing." It is to be regarded, if we understand this sharp-eyed sentinel, as a demonstration of the necessity of turning "unfaithful and unlucky" officers out of service, and of commissioning Lee a generalissimo, with plenary powers over the lives and persons of all other Confederate citizens. Then *The Examiner*, by way of making all serene, announces that Wilmington is in no danger, while *The Enquirer* shows that the loss of the aforesaid Wilmington would be of immense advantage to the Rebel cause. To crown all, the same *Enquirer* is speculating upon what shall be done when the Confederacy has given up the ghost. We are to unite our armies with those of the Confederates, and together, a band of loving brothers, we are to capture Mexico, Canada, Cuba and Ireland. Really, this is very kind. Only it requires a little consideration.

For our own part, in all these various utterances, these stammering attempts to gild disaster and to make the best of a bad business, we discover signs of a cold despair which is already stiffening the vitals of the Confederacy. Already the assassins of the Republic have reached the point of spasmodic make-shift, and are compelled to admit the possibility, which is very much as if they went farther and allowed the probability, of ruin. When there is so much talk of "the last ditch," we may assume that it is even now frightfully gaping for its prey. History is full of the expedients and devices of a defeat cause. When Napoleon had been

beaten and was surrounded by the swarming armies of all Europe, he was wonderfully fertile in resources, and reconstructed his empire, in theory, in a way which, however clear to himself, was by no means so to his Generals. We expect a good many defeats in the future—upon paper! We anticipate the complete demolition of the United States, over and over again—in leading articles. Meanwhile we are content to take our chance of being ruined by our victories, and we leave cheerfully to our adversaries the unspeakable blessings of defeat. It is enough for us to know that in the long run the winning side has the best of it. We leave traitors to speculate upon what they are to do to save themselves and their property from the penalties of outraged law. Only give us the cities, the ports, the railways, the rivers, the fortresses and the plantations of the Confederacy, and we are perfectly willing to encounter even the redoubtable Lee, with all the men, black or white, or yellow, to be mustered by the most rigid conscription which fear and necessity can devise. We are quite resigned to what may follow.

INDIANA DIVORCES MAY SERVE THE TURN OF INDIANANS, but are a very poor reliance for New-Yorkers. It seems to be settled that one of our citizens can't take his neighbor's wife clandestinely to an Indiana tavern, get her divorced, marry her, and come back here to live in the next street to her discarded husband; or, if he does, a New-York jury will not justify him in doing it. Such being the law, our easy-going people should make a note of it, and, if they want an Indiana divorce, go and live in Indiana.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Jan. 26, 1865.

HOW BEN. BUTLER GOT RICH.

After Boutwell had convicted Brooks on the floor of the House of a deliberate slander and libel upon Gen. Butler in the matter of the Smith gold-seizure, and after he had appealed to him in vain to retract his charges, the calculator, from the shelter of his parliamentary privilege, flung at the soldier a dirty insinuation—that when the war broke out he was an ordinary attorney, in a little town in little Massachusetts, with a small practice, who never came to New-York, and never argued causes in the Supreme Court of the United States in Washington, and yet who had got rich since the war began, and, therefore, must have stolen!

For present refutation of this and similar calumnies, I will say from my positive knowledge that for five years preceding the war Gen. Butler's income from his law practice in Boston and Lowell amounted to \$20,000 a year—that he has been one of the foremost and most successful lawyers in Massachusetts for twenty-three years—that when he started with his command for Baltimore he left the trial of a cause half finished, and was on that day worth \$100,000 of inherited property, the accumulations of a life of labor—that he planned the purchase of the bankrupt Lawrence mill property, organized a company to stock and run the mill, put \$30,000 into the enterprise, and directed its operations with such success that the 100 par value of the subscribed stock has risen to 350, and the dividends to the shareholders for three years have been 50 per cent a year—that he is to-day, liberal and handsome living as he has ever been, worth \$250,000—and that every dollar of this property has been honestly and justly earned—and that his account books, models of business exactitude and method, will give the history of every dollar of it, from the time that he was 21 years old. They are open to the inspection of the world. Now let this lie!

SHERIDAN TO COMMAND THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

Notwithstanding the denial attributed to Gen. Meade that he has been removed from the command of the Army of the Potomac, it is well understood here that the two armies of the James and of the Potomac have been consolidated, and that Sheridan has been selected to command them, and that another command or new duties have been assigned to Gen. Meade. The time has at last come to bring about peace by hard, smashing fighting, with the odds in our favor, and Phil Sheridan is put into the North side of the ring. Big bets are made here that he will knock Lee out of time in the first round.

TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENTS ARRIVED.

Brown and Richardson, the escaped TRIBUNE captives, arrived here today, and were taken to the arms of the men of the newspaper press. They come on a sacred mission to stimulate the Government by a representation of the horrible sufferings of our prisoners, and the diabolical policy of the Rebels to starve and freeze them to death, by retaliation or otherwise, but to rescue them immediately. This business, on which Gen. Butler had prosperously entered a year ago, was summarily stopped by an order emanating from the War Department on the 14th of April last. Congress will, without doubt, give it a start again next week.

PEACE RUMORS.

The return of Gen. Sigleton from Richmond is looked for hourly. His political friends urge as one among the reasons which should hurry the Administration to make peace, the certainty that after the inauguration of Mr. Lincoln on the 4th of March, the Catholic powers of France, Spain, Austria, with the Pope will acknowledge the Confederate States, on the ground that Mr. Lincoln was elected President of the free States only, and not of all the old United States. They declare this on high diplomatic and sacerdotal authority.

SUFFERINGS OF WORKING WOMEN.

A committee of ladies representing 14,000 working women of Philadelphia, employees of Government contractors, waited on the President today to tell of their sufferings and their wrongs. Simon Cameron, John W. Forney, and other Pennsylvanians accompanied them. The President, deeply impressed, sent for Acting Quartermaster General Thomas, and told him the story he had heard, and then said with feeling, "I shall consider myself personally obliged if you can hereafter manage the supplies of contract work for the Government made up by women, so as to give them remunerative wages for their labor." The General declared that if it could be done it should be.

BLOCKADE RUNNER WARNED.

The Rebels North telegraphed the capture of Fort Fisher to Halifax. Instantly the merchants there chartered the fastest steamer in port to carry the news to Bermuda, Nassau and around generally, to keep the blockade-runners out of the trap.

RELEASE OF COL. NORTH.

Col. North has been released by an order of the War Department. He was convicted by the finding of the court which tried him. Before the trial was concluded it was felt here that North would escape all punishment. The pressure to have his trial stopped was immense. This was nearly done, but was finally defeated. The pressure for his unconditional release has been irresistible.

OHIO SENATOR.

The canvass for the Ohio United States Senatorship has openly commenced. Gen. Schenck is the competitor of Mr. Sherman. His advantage of loyalty, his talent, his military services, his generous warmth of character, in the judgment of Western politicians, assure his election.

IMPROVING THE REVENUE.

Some of the working Members of Congress are considering the policy of sending a commission to Europe to examine and report upon its various revenue systems. Through accidental evasions and imperfect

execution of our law, it is reckoned that the Treasury last year lost twenty-five millions of dollars.

CABINET OFFICERS ON THE FLOOR.

The indications to-day are that the bill to admit Cabinet officers to seats and the privilege of debate will not pass.

To the Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Jan. 26, 1865.

THE BANKRUPTCY BILL, introduced by Senator Foster, from the Committee on the Judiciary, is a measure of the nature of a substitute. The principal alterations proposed by the Committee are the following: The eighth and ninth sections are struck out. Three sections are added to the United States when the business of a District Court in Bankruptcy has so accumulated that the Judge cannot perform the same in addition to the duties of an attorney and commissioner, one or more District Judges to sit in bankruptcy only, and also to appoint an assistant Court Judge under similar circumstances. The voluntary bankrupts and commencement of proceeding sections are amended by striking out of the proceeding to the Marshal or his deputy, in taking possession of property, to except such as may be by the laws of the State in which the bankrupt resides is situated, excepting from attachments and sales of real and personal property in the amount to the family, condition and circumstances of the bankrupt, not altogether to exceed in value in any case the sum of \$500, and also the wearing apparel of the bankrupt, and the furniture and household and personal effects of any person who is or has been a soldier in the service of the United States; and the determination of the assignee in these matters shall, on application, be made by the court, and the property of the bankrupt shall be divided among the creditors in the following order: First, the fees, costs and expenses of suits, and for the conduct of the proceedings in relation to the bankruptcy; Second, all debts due to the United States, and all taxes and assessments under the laws thereof; Third, all debts due to the States in which the proceedings in bankruptcy are pending and all taxes and assessments made under the laws of such State; Fourth, wages due to any operative, clerk or house servant to whom an account of his wages shall have been rendered within six months next preceding the first publication of the notice of proceedings in bankruptcy; Fifth, all debts due to any person who by the laws of the United States, are or may be entitled to a priority or preference, in the like manner as in cases of non-bankrupts, but not to exceed the amount of the debt; and the balance shall be divided among the creditors in the following order: First, the fees, costs and expenses of suits, and for the conduct of the proceedings in relation to the bankruptcy; Second, all debts due to the United States, and all taxes and assessments under the laws thereof; Third, all debts due to the States in which the proceedings in bankruptcy are pending and all taxes and assessments made under the laws of such State; Fourth, wages due to any operative, clerk or house servant to whom an account of his wages shall have been rendered within six months next preceding the first publication of the notice of proceedings in bankruptcy; Fifth, all debts due to any person who by the laws of the United States, are or may be entitled to a priority or preference, in the like manner as in cases of non-bankrupts, but not to exceed the amount of the debt; and the balance shall be divided among the creditors in the following order: First, the fees, costs and expenses of suits, and for the conduct of the proceedings in relation to the bankruptcy; Second, all debts due to the United States, and all taxes and assessments under the laws thereof; Third, all debts due to the States in which the proceedings in bankruptcy are pending and all taxes and assessments made under the laws of such State; Fourth, wages due to any operative, clerk or house servant to whom an account of his wages shall have been rendered within six months next preceding the first publication of the notice of proceedings in bankruptcy; Fifth, all debts due to any person who by the laws of the United States, are or may be entitled to a priority or preference, in the like manner as in cases of non-bankrupts, but not to exceed the amount of the debt; and the balance shall be divided among the creditors in the following order: First, the fees, costs and expenses of suits, and for the conduct of the proceedings in relation to the bankruptcy; Second, all debts due to the United States, and all taxes and assessments under the laws thereof; Third, all debts due to the States in which the proceedings in bankruptcy are pending and all taxes and assessments made under the laws of such State; Fourth, wages due to any operative, clerk or house servant to whom an account of his wages shall have been rendered within six months next preceding the first publication of the notice of proceedings in bankruptcy; Fifth, all debts due to any person who by the laws of the United States, are or may be entitled to a priority or preference, in the like manner as in cases of non-bankrupts, but not to exceed the amount of the debt; and the balance shall be divided among the creditors in the following order: First, the fees, costs and expenses of suits, and for the conduct of the proceedings in relation to the bankruptcy; Second, all debts due to the United States, and all taxes and assessments under the laws thereof; Third, all debts due to the States in which the proceedings in bankruptcy are pending and all taxes and assessments made under the laws of such State; Fourth, wages due to any operative, clerk or house servant to whom an account of his wages shall have been rendered within six months next preceding the first publication of the notice of proceedings in bankruptcy; Fifth, all debts due to any person who by the laws of the United States, are or may be entitled to a priority or preference, in the like manner as in cases of non-bankrupts, but not to exceed the amount of the debt; and the balance shall be divided among the creditors in the following order: First, the fees, costs and expenses of suits, and for the conduct of the proceedings in relation to the bankruptcy; Second, all debts due to the United States, and all taxes and assessments under the laws thereof; Third, all debts due to the States in which the proceedings in bankruptcy are pending and all taxes and assessments made under the laws of such State; Fourth, wages due to any operative, clerk or house servant to whom an account of his wages shall have been rendered within six months next preceding the first publication of the notice of proceedings in bankruptcy; Fifth, all debts due to any person who by the laws of the United States, are or may be entitled to a priority or preference, in the like manner as in cases of non-bankrupts, but not to exceed the amount of the debt; and the balance shall be divided among the creditors in the following order: First, the fees, costs and expenses of suits, and for the conduct of the proceedings in relation to the bankruptcy; Second, all debts due to the United States, and all taxes and assessments under the laws thereof; Third, all debts due to the States in which the proceedings in bankruptcy are pending and all taxes and assessments made under the laws of such State; Fourth, wages due to any operative, clerk or house servant to whom an account of his wages shall have been rendered within six months next preceding the first publication of the notice of proceedings in bankruptcy; Fifth, all debts due to any person who by the laws of the United States, are or may be entitled to a priority or preference, in the like manner as in cases of non-bankrupts, but not to exceed the amount of the debt; and the balance shall be divided among the creditors in the following order: First, the fees, costs and expenses of suits, and for the conduct of the proceedings in relation to the bankruptcy; Second, all debts due to the United States, and all taxes and assessments under the laws thereof; Third, all debts due to the States in which the proceedings in bankruptcy are pending and all taxes and assessments made under the laws of such State; Fourth, wages due to any operative, clerk or house servant to whom an account of his wages shall have been rendered within six months next preceding the first publication of the notice of proceedings in bankruptcy; Fifth, all debts due to any person who by the laws of the United States, are or may be entitled to a priority or preference, in the like manner as in cases of non-bankrupts, but not to exceed the amount of the debt; and the balance shall be divided among the creditors in the following order: First, the fees, costs and expenses of suits, and for the conduct of the proceedings in relation to the bankruptcy; Second, all debts due to the United States, and all taxes and assessments under the laws thereof; Third, all debts due to the States in which the proceedings in bankruptcy are pending and all taxes and assessments made under the laws of such State; Fourth, wages due to any operative, clerk or house servant to whom an account of his wages shall have been rendered within six months next preceding the first publication of the notice of proceedings in bankruptcy; Fifth, all debts due to any person who by the laws of the United States, are or may be